

Novice Class

Effective January 1, 2019



For the past several years, there has been concern among experienced IMAC members that the threshold for entering the Basic class has been raised to a point that it intimidates new pilots from even trying IMAC. IMAC has tried several approaches to help new pilots overcome this perception, such as IMAC Clinics, Basic Only Competitions, and reduced entry fees for new basic pilots. While these methods have had some success attracting new pilots to IMAC, the perception problems remain that discourage new pilots from entering IMAC contests.

For 2019, the Board of Directors wants to encourage Contest Directors to try a new approach to attracting new basic pilots. We would like Contest Directors, at their discretion, to send invitations to local AMA clubs and offer new pilots the opportunity to fly as “Novice” pilots. A Novice Pilot will be in the Basic Rotation during the normal flight sequence, will fly the Basic sequence, and be scored just like all other Basic pilots. However, the scores will not be entered into the competition Score! Program, will not appear on contest results. This would be a one day opportunity on Saturday. The Novice will be given their raw score sheets, including any comments from the judges. This will permit a new pilot to compare their flying ability to other Basic pilots, without the intimidation or embarrassment they may fear at a contest. We are hoping this approach will give new pilots a better perspective on what IMAC is about, and encourage them to join in competition.

1. The NOVICE class will fly on Saturday Only
2. Novice class will fly the Basic sequence
3. Airplane can be either gas or electric
4. Airframe cannot be larger than 97” wingspan
5. Airplane can be of any type, does not have to be a scale aerobatic airplane

Promoting the Event

30 days prior to the scheduled contest the CD’s, RD’s and ARD’s should try to contact all R/C clubs in the area. Send a flyer inviting anyone interested in IMAC Scale Aerobatics to free help and a chance to fly in the “Novice” class. Since Novices are not competing, this is NOT a new competitive class under the Radio Control Scale Aerobatic Rules. The Board of Directors hopes Contest Directors will embrace this approach in the 2019 season.

The “How To’s” to Scale Aerobatics

This will be an introduction to how flying scale aerobatics can improve pilot skills. Pilots will have access to very the workload of in the pilot. They will go through just the basic rules of competition. Explain the flimsy and how it should be flown. Stand with the pilot and call and help with the sequence in the air.

Cost to Participate

While contest fees are established by Contest Directors, the Board of Directors recommends that Novice pilots be given a deep discount from the regular registration. Once a pilot flies his first round as a Novice at the contest, he may not change that decision for the contest. Pilots cannot remain in “NOVICE” class past the current flying season. The next season they would start in Basic.